Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Foster parenting is a public service in which individuals and families provide safe homes for children and youth across the state; and,

Whereas, Foster families serve as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support for children and youth who have been through a difficult time. They are the foundation of our communities, our state, and our nation; and,

Whereas, Each month, there are approximately 1,000 children and youth in foster care from public, private, and tribal agencies in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Foster families open their homes and hearts to provide support and well-being to children in South Dakota, whose families are in crisis. They play a vital role in helping the birth families heal and reconnect; and,

Whereas, They contribute time and talent to help shape the lives of children in foster care; and,

Whereas, There are numerous individuals, public, private, and tribal organizations who work to increase public awareness of needs of children in, and those leaving foster care, and the valuable contribution of foster parents; and,

Whereas, The individual commitments to becoming a foster family for children in need represents the ultimate expression of community service:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2011, as

FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION AND AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of May in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Judy A. Larson Exec. Asst.

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State